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15 November 2007



Australian Government

IP Australia

Discovery House, Phillip ACT 2606  
PO Box 200, Woden ACT 2606  
Australia  
Phone +61 -2 6283 2999  
Facsimile +61 -2 6283 7999  
[www.ipaustralia.gov.au](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au)

Griffith Hack  
GPO Box 1285  
Melbourne VIC 3001  
Australia

Your Ref: PNF:JJT:P60328

Examiner's first report on patent application no. 2004320238  
by Mitsubishi Denki Kabushiki Kaisha

Last proposed amendment no. 1

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am replying to the request for examination. I have based this report on the verified translation and the statement of proposed amendments under S104 of 28 April 2006. I have examined the application and I believe that there are lawful grounds of objection to the application. These grounds of objection are:

1. There is no Notice of Entitlement on file. You will need to file one because an application without a Notice of Entitlement cannot be accepted.
2. Claims 1-24 are not novel and/ or lack an inventive step in light of the prior art documents discussed in IPRP I, for the reasons provided in that report. While not made under Australian law, I agree with the reasons in the report and consider they support an objection of lack of novelty of the Australian claims.

NOTE: There is a current postponement of acceptance in place. If you overcome all other objections before the expiration of that postponement, the Commissioner will only accept the application at that time if you have filed a clear and unambiguous statement requesting the withdrawal of that postponement. Otherwise, a further adverse report will be issued.

I apologise for any inconvenience resulting from your request for examination not being considered within the time limit set out in our Customer Service Charter.

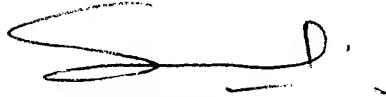
You have 21 months from the date of this report to overcome all my objection(s) otherwise your application will lapse.

You will need to pay a monthly fee for any response you file after 12 months from the date of the first report.

You will also need to pay any annual continuation fees that apply. These will normally be first due five years from the filing date. Please note however that earlier commencement dates apply for divisional applications.

Information about fees may be obtained by phoning 1300 651010.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SUNIL KAUL', with a stylized flourish at the end.

SUNIL KAUL  
Patent Examination B  
C4 - Electronics  
Phone: (02) 6283 2182